

Also, because of the technology used, iDEN, Sprint Nextel has experienced issues with product availability and software compatibility as explained in their waiver request of September 29, 2005.

As a state agency charged with protecting public safety, we take our responsibilities seriously and we are thankful for all the hard work the Commission has engaged in on E911. At the same time, we believe that Sprint Nextel has taken significant measures to encourage subscribers to upgrade their handsets and will continue to do so in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'RT', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Richard Taylor, ENP
Executive Director

www.ncwireless911.org

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North Carolina WIRELESS 911 BOARD

George Bakolia, Chair

Carolyn H. Carter, Vice Chair

October 26, 2005

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Sprint Nextel Corporation Petition for Limited Waiver
WT Docket No. 05-286/DA 05-2677

Dear Ms. Dortch:

As the Executive Director of the North Carolina Wireless 911 Board, I am writing in regard to Sprint Nextel's request for waiver seeking an extension of the FCC's December 31, 2005 E911 95 percent handset penetration deadline to December 31, 2007.

Over the years, we have worked closely and effectively with both Sprint PCS and Nextel in deploying E-911 in our state. Sprint PCS and Nextel have been diligent in ensuring their networks have the necessary capabilities, and each company has always been prompt and responsive to our public safety needs and concerns as deployment and/or service issues have arisen.

Sprint Nextel, now as one company, has also undertaken significant measures to inform customers about the benefits of E911 and to encourage its subscribers to obtain location-capable GPS handsets. As Sprint Nextel has explained, however, some customers have resisted upgrading their handsets to GPS models. In this case, strict enforcement of the December 31, 2005 deadline would unnecessarily inconvenience customers and could undermine public safety in some cases by preventing access to 911.

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